

[26th August 1926]

A.—The committee has issued a questionnaire to the public and has asked that answers may be sent not later than the 15th August 1926.

Assignment of Lands.

Darkhast lands set apart for assignment to Adi-Dravidas.

* 2340 Q.—**Mr. R. VEERIAN** : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the resolutions of the Madras Presidency Adi-Dravida Conference held at Madras on May 1926, as well as the resolution of the Tiruvannamalai Conference and the Vikramavandi Conference ;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to withdraw the power from the village officials of making recommendations on darkhast petitions ;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the lists of lands as per Board of Revenue Proceedings No. 1187, dated 5th March 1925, only lands which are unfit for cultivation and rocky soil are included in the lists set apart for Adi-Dravidas ;

(d) whether any orders have been issued to include some darkhast lands useful for cultivation ; and

(e) if not, why not ?

A.—(a) Copies of the Resolutions passed in the first two Conferences have been received by Government.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 2278.

(c), (d) & (e) The rules provide for the reservation of cultivable land including valuable land. The Government have no reason to believe that only lands unfit for cultivation are being reserved.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“With reference to the answers to clauses (c) to (e) I have brought to the notice of the Revenue Secretariat several specific instances where lands unfit for cultivation and rocky soil are included in the lists set apart for Adi-Dravidas. I want to know what action was taken on those representations.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“I am very glad to hear that the hon. Member has brought such cases to the notice of the Government. If he will give notice of his question we will tell him what action has been taken on the representations.”

Deputy Collectors.

Additions to the cadre of Deputy Collectors.

11-30 a.m. * 2341 Q.—**Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR** : With reference to the answer of the Government to questions Nos. 215 and 216 of 7th February 1925, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of adding to the permanent cadre of Deputy Collectors to meet the increased demand has been examined and, if so, with what results ;